

From: Lee Larson
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I oppose the proposed settlement between the DoJ and Microsoft for the following reasons.

(1) There is no punishment within it. Microsoft was found guilty, and that finding should have some consequences. Donating software and a bit of hardware costs them nothing.

(2) It encourages them to strongly enter one of the few markets in which they still have competition--the education market--and does so in a manner that allows their competitors little voice. Indeed, this strategy of giving away software to establish market dominance is one they've used several times before. It was one of the bases of the browser lawsuit.

(3) There is little in the agreement to keep Microsoft from using its ill-gotten monopolies to stifle future competition. Tthe Windows Media Player versus Real Player and QuickTime competition is already showing Microsoft to be up to its old tricks in the most recent releases of Windows.

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